R 130127Z SEP 07 ZUI ASN-A08256000007 FM COMCOGARD SECTOR HOUSTON GALVESTON TX TO COMCOGARD SECTOR HOUSTON GALVESTON TX CCGDEIGHT NEW ORLEANS LA//DRM/DRMC// INFO COGARD NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER WASHINGTON DC COMCOGARD NPFC WASHINGTON DC COGARD NSFCC ELIZABETH CITY NC COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA//AR/AP/AX/AE/AL// COGARD FINCEN CHESAPEAKE VA COGARD GST MOBILE AL COGARD AIRSTA HOUSTON TX COMCOGARD MLC LANT NORFOLK VA NTSB WASHINGTON DC COMCOGARD SFO GALVESTON TX COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC BT UNCLAS ZEN2/ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION VI** FIRST INTERNATIONAL BUILDING 1445 ROSS AVENUE DALLAS, TX 75270 FAX (214) 665 7257

SUBJ: SITREP-POL EIGHT POTENTIAL MAJOR RELEASE CONTAMINATED WATER DISCHARGE, COTTON PATCH BAYOU, HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL IN THE VICINITY OF AGRIFOS FERTILIZER INC, MISLE CASE NO. 372856, NRC 847936.

1. SITUATION: (ALL TIMES LOCAL)

A. 12 SEP 07 EPA ASSUMED FOSCR. FOCUS TURNED TOWARDS TROPICAL STORM HUMBERTO, WHICH COULD BEGIN IMPACTING THE AGRIFOS FERTILIZER (RP) FACILITY AS EARLY AS THIS EVENING. UNIFIED COMMAND OBJECTIVES TRANSITIONED TO HEALTH AND SAFETY; AGGRESSIVE WATER MANAGEMENT TO MAINTAIN AT LEAST 12 IN FREEBOARD IN STACK PONDS; NOTIFICATION OF NEIGHBORING FACILITY OF POTENTIAL RELEASE; PROACTIVE EFFORTS TO MITIGATE ALL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS; MONITOR WATER LEVELS, GYPSUM STACKS, AND CONTAINMENT WALLS; AND SET UP CLAIMS PROCESS. IN ANTICIPATION OF FORECASTED RAIN. OVERNIGHT RP PUMPED NON-CONTAMINATED WATER OUT OF WATER TREATMENT FACILITY HOLDING AREA, FREEING UP ALMOST 3 MILLION GALLONS OF SPACE. IN ADDITION AFTER HUMBERTO WAS UPGRADED. RP BEGAN INTERNAL STACK-WATER MANAGEMENT. SHIFTING WATER FROM POND STACK TO MOAT AREAS AT BASE OF STACK. TRADE OFF IS WATER LEVELS IN MOAT, WHICH COULD REACH MAXIMUM LEVELS OF RETAINING WALL. (NOTE: CONTAMINATED WATER IN POND IS APPROX 185 MILLION GALLONS. CONTAMINATED WATER IN MOAT LESS THAN 50 MILLION GALLONS.) RAINS FROM HUMBERTO ARE EXPECTED TO CAUSE MOAT TO OVERFLOW WALL AT PRE-BUILT LOW-RELEASE POINT. OVERFLOW WILL RECEIVE PH TREATMENT AFTER ENTERING CITY RAINWATER DITCH AND BEFORE TRANSVERSING COTTON PATCH BAYOU. ADDITIONALLY, UNIFIED COMMAND CONCURRED WITH RP'S ASSESSMENT THAT CONTROLLED RELEASE. EMPLOYING SAME PH TREATMENT AS LISTED ABOVE, PROVIDED THE BEST OPTION FOR QUICK, SUBSTANTIAL WATER LEVEL REDUCTION, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN OVERALL SYSTEM INTEGRITY. RELEASE BEGAN AT APPROX 1800 AND IS BEING CLOSELY MONITORED. (RP INDICATED THAT AN NRC REPORT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.) WATER MANAGEMENT EFFORTS ARE PREDICTED TO GAIN AN ADDITIONAL 7 TO 12 IN OF FREEBOARD FOR A TOTAL OF 19 TO 24 IN, WHICH SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO SUSTAIN CRITICAL GYPSUM WALLS AROUND PONDS DESPITE FORECASTED RAIN AMOUNTS AND HIGH WINDS. RRT WAS

BRIEFED ON INCREASED POTENTIAL OF CATASTROPHIC FAILURE AS WELL AS POSSIBLE NEED FOR CONTROLLED RELEASE IF SITUATION WARRANTED. FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IN NEEDED, CG GULF STRIKE TEAM PRE-POSITIONED PUMPS AND PERSONNEL. ALSO, MSU GALVESTON HAS AUGMENTED UNIFIED COMMAND. LONG-TERM MITIGATION STRATEGIES CONTINUE. MOST PROMISING APPEARS TO BE RP'S RE-ENGINEERING CONTAMINATED WATER INTO LOW GRADE LIQUID FERTILIZER. ALTHOUGH, BECAUSE OF ON-SITE WATER TREATMENT PLANT LIMITATIONS, THIS REMOVES PRE-TREATMENT FOR WASTE TREATMENT CENTERS, IT'S OVERALL THROUGH PUT OFFERS MORE BENEFITS AND RE-ENGINEERING ALLOWS FOR MORE STORAGE OPTIONS. RP IS STILL WORKING ON AGRICULTURAL PERMITS, BUT EXPECTS TO PUT INITIAL 3 MILLION GALLONS OF LOW GRADE FERTILIZER ON BARGES WITHIN A WEEK OR TWO. AFTER 11 SEPT DELIVERY OF LETTER TO RP AND EXXON-MOBIL OUTLINING CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, EXXON-MOBIL OFFERED ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH CLEAN CHANNEL, A LOCAL RESPONSE COOP. WHILE CONTINUING WORK TO OPEN INJECTION MINE BY OCT, EXXON-MOBIL IS ENGAGING WITH CG, EPA, AND TCEQ LAWYERS TO DETERMINE EXXON-MOBIL'S CULPABILITY FOR EVENT.

B. O/S WX: WINDS 11 KNOTS S SEAS: 3-5 FT, VIS: 7 NM, TEMP 81F C. ESTIMATED COST CHARGEABLE TO THE FUND IS AS FOLLOWS:

CONTRACTOR COSTS: \$0,000.00 COAST GUARD COSTS: \$4,111.01 OTHER AGENCIES: \$0,000.00 TOTAL COSTS: \$0,000.00 FUNDS REMAINING: \$20,888.99

ACCT. DATA: 2/H/701/872/80/0/C07152/37170/2523 RESPONSIBLE PARTY: AGRIFOS FERTILIZER INC

D. MEDIA INTEREST: NONE.

2. ACTIONS TAKEN.

A. 12 SEP 0800 OPS/COMMAND STAFF MEETING.

B. 0900 TECHNICAL EXPERTS PRESENT FINDINGS TO UC.

C. 1000 RRT BRIEF.

D. 1200 PHONCON WITH EXXON-MOBIL

E. 1300 TACTICS MEETING HELD.

F. 1500 UPDATE BRIEF FOR UC.

G. 1700 PLANNING MEETING

3. FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. 13 SEPT 2007 0800 OPERATIONS MEETING.

B. CLOSELY MONITOR HUMBERTO.

C. REFINE OBJECTIVES AS NEEDED TO ENSURE GYPSUM STACK INTEGRITY.

D. CONTINUE TO SEEK VIABLE ALTERNATIVES FOR SAFE DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED WATER.

4. CASE PENDING.

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